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Hongkong, 19th June, 1891. [778]

Intimations.

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CHEMISTS AND AERATED WATER MANUFACTURERS.
A REFRESHING WHOLESOME DRINK.
DAKIN'S LEMON SQUASH.
A VERITABLE LEMON SQUASH AERATED, COOLING, THIRST QUENCHING.
PER DOZEN 50 CENTS.
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Hongkong, 4th May, 1891.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.
(ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.)
HONGKONG.

WE invite attention to the following old lauded Brands, all of which are of excellent quality and good value for the money.
The same being specially selected by our London House, and bought direct from the most noted Shippers, are imported in wood and bottled by ourselves, thus enabling us to supply the best goods at moderate prices.

In ordering it is only necessary to state the name and quantity of Wine or Spirit wanted, and initial letter for quality desired.
Orders through Local Post or by Telegram receive prompt attention.

PORTS. (For Invalids and general use.)

	Per Dozen	Per Bottle
A. Alto Douro, good quality, Green Capsule	\$10	\$1.00
B. Vintage, Superior Quality	12	1.10
C. Fine Old Vintage, superior quality, Black Seal Capsule	14	1.25
D. Very Fine Old Vintage, extra superior, Violet Capsule (Old Bottled)	18	1.50

SHERRIES.

A. Delicate Pale Dry, dinner wine, Green Capsule	6	0.50
B. Superior Pale Dry, dinner wine, Green Seal Capsule	7.50	0.75
C. Manzanilla, Pale Natural Sherry, White Capsule	10	1.00
CC. Superior Old Dry, Pale Natural Sherry, Red Seal Capsule	10	1.00
D. Very Superior Old Pale Dry, choice old wine, White Seal Capsule	14	1.50
E. Extra Superior Old Pale Dry, very finest quality, Black Seal Capsule (Old Bottled)	14	1.50

CLARETS.

A. Superior Breakfast Claret, Red Capsule	\$4	\$4.50
B. St. Estephe, Red Capsule	4.50	5.00
C. St. Julien	7	7.50
D. La Rose	11	12.00

BRANDY.

A. Hennessy's Old Pale, Red Capsule	\$12	\$1.10
B. Superior, Very Old Cognac, Red Capsule	14	1.25
C. Very Old Cognac, Red Capsule	18	1.50
D. Hennessy's Finest Very Old Cognac, 1872 Vintage, Red Capsule	24	2.00

SCOTCH WHISKY.

A. Thorne's Blend, White Capsule	8	0.75
B. Watson's Glenorchy Mellow Blend, Blue Capsule with Name and Trade Mark	8	0.75
C. Watson's Abellon-Glenlivet, Red Capsule, with Name and Trade Mark	8	0.75
D. Watson's Finest Scotch Malt Whiskies, Violet Capsule	10	1.00
E. Watson's Very Old Scotch Whisky, Gold Capsule	12	1.10

IRISH WHISKY.

A. John Jameson's Old, Green Capsule	8	0.75
B. John Jameson's Fine Old, Green Capsule	10	1.00
C. John Jameson's Very Fine Old, Green Capsule	12	1.10
Genuine Botolph Whisky, fine old, Red Capsule, with Name	10	1.00

GIN.

A. Fine Old Tom, White Capsule	4.50	0.40
B. Fine Unsweetened, White Capsule	4.50	0.40
C. Fine A. V. H. Geneva	5.25	0.50

RUM.

Finest Old Jamaica, Violet Capsule	12	1.00
Good Lecward Island, \$1.50 per Gallon		

LIQUEURS.

Benedictine	Maraschino
Curaçao	Herrings' Cherry Cordial
Chartreuse	Dr. Siegel's Angostura Bitters, &c.

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The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, JULY 17, 1891.

THE telegram which we publish in another column, stating that the King of Siam yesterday turned the sod of the first railway in Siam, marks another important epoch of progressive development in the Far East. The line is from Bangkok to Paknam-Petrie, and is 39 miles in length, 4 feet 8½ gauge and runs towards the entrance of the river, tapping the most fertile rice districts of the country, and bringing the rice export within an hour's transport of the heavy draught shipping at the entrance of the Bangkok river. This event, following so quickly upon the completion of the railway survey under the auspices of Sir ANDREW CLARKE from the Siamese capital to the frontiers

of British Burmah, adds further to the significance of the event. In addition to this, only the other day we chronicled a Siamese concession to British financiers, for a railway from Kedah to Singorah, 68 miles in length, across the head of the Malay peninsula, (superseding the Krah isthmus scheme of the French), and shortening the mail delivery distance to Hongkong by four days. The development of the railway system in Burmah is rapidly progressing; in the Malay Peninsula a start has been made. It is palpably to the interests of Siam to further the development to the south first, in the direction of those provinces which connect her with the Malay States and the Straits Settlements; still we may hope that by the friendly aid and persuasions of the Indian Government, it may not be long before the construction of the northern trunk line is undertaken. This taken together with the extension of railways in Cochinchina and Tonquin by the French, the trans-Siberian railway by Russia, and the network of railways throughout Japan, cannot fail to become an additional stimulant to China in the same direction. At the moment, the sole attention of the Chinese Government in this direction is aimed at communicating with the Russian and Korean frontiers, and protecting the capital from attack from a Russian or Japanese direction. The present Manchu dynasty, like their almost immediate predecessors the Mongols, have always displayed the most intense concern in protecting the districts forming the cradle of their respective races. Peking was adopted as the capital by both dynasties from its proximity to the country from whence these alien conquerors sprang, so that in the event of emergency they always had a safe retreat open to them. That this was both a prudent and necessary policy, we must admit when we consider the insignificance of the ruling Manchu population of China, which has been estimated not to exceed 3,500,000, and compare it with the 350,000,000 comprising the population of this vast empire. The encroachments of Russia all along the northern frontier down to the borders of Korea and on the eastern flank of Manchuria, the wonderful progressive developments of Japan, and lastly the progress in Korea, with Russian and Japanese influence preponderating and completely out-flanking northern China, naturally causes the Peking Government concern as well as alarm. The consequence has been that for years past China has devoted all attention to the protection of her northern ports—more than in any other direction in the Empire. Enormous sums have been expended on the establishment and fortifications of Port Arthur, an isolated dockyard and fortress near Ta-lien-whan bay, on the northern shore of the entrance to the Gulf of Pechili, and likewise on Wei-wai, on the opposite shore, to the eastward of Chefoo. Moreover, the extension of railways in the north is principally directed towards facilitating communications with these defensive ports. Unless means are adopted, at the same time, to establish quick communication for food supplies from the south, on which the north naturally to a great extent relies, these costly works will, in a great measure, be practically useless, more especially as China does not possess a navy worthy of the term either in vessels or in organization of officers or men. The effectual blockade of the Gulf of Pechili, isolating the two defensive ports, would be a matter of easy accomplishment by any well appointed and comparatively small fleet, and if at the same moment China was opposed by any of the northern Powers indicated above, the position at Peking would be critical in the extreme. These considerations ought to have weight with the Chinese Government, which is now endeavouring to stand upon one leg in the matter of railways, as if the depends simply on this arm only in a northern direction, and omits the all-important considerations which should make the southern development of railways of primary importance and necessity, then she will certainly rue the day sooner or later. We therefore feel sanguine hopes that the event we chronicle, the adoption of railways by China's once dependent tributary state Siam, will have its reflex action at Peking, and by force of example (which carries more weight in shaping Chinese policy than is generally credited) induce China to promptly follow suit, and develop a railway system in her southern provinces without waiting until her mineral resources develop, for these, according to present regulations, will be when the millennium becomes an accomplished fact, at which period, we may safely conclude, railways will be altogether superfluous.

TELEGRAMS.

THE EMPEROR WILLIAM AT WINDSOR.
London, July 16th.

His Majesty the Emperor of Germany has been entertained at a brilliant banquet by Her Majesty the Queen at Windsor Castle, the

Marquis of Salisbury and other notables were present.

EXECUTIONS IN NEW YORK.

Four murderers have been executed by electricity in New York.

ACCIDENT TO THE SULTAN OF ZANZIBAR.

The Sultan of Zanzibar has met with a carriage accident, fracturing his leg and collar bone.

THE NETHERLANDS MINISTRY.

The Dutch Cabinet has resigned. [At the general elections in the Netherlands last month the Liberal party, then in Opposition, gained a majority owing to a split among the ministerial supporters.]

ENGLAND CAUTIONED BY THE RUSSIAN PRESS.

July 15th.
The *Moscow Gazette* warns England that in the event of European coalition against Russia, she will deal a mortal blow at British power in India.

(Special to the Hongkong Telegraph.)

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BANGKOK, July 16th.

His Majesty the King turned the sod of the first Siamese railway to-day, amidst great popular enthusiasm.

A TYPHOON.

The Spanish Consul kindly forwards a telegram from Bolina which states that a typhoon exists to the north-east of Luzon.

A later telegram received this afternoon, says that the typhoon has doubled Cape Eganoo, and is proceeding towards the 40th degree.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Andania* left Nagasaki at 5 p.m. yesterday, for this port.

It takes a single girl a long while to sew a button on a coat when there's a live man in it.

LONDON has a muscular thief who has pleaded guilty to stealing the entire plate of a printing office.

THE Chief Manager of Hongkong and Shanghai Bank to-day issued the following official notification.—Mr. H. L. Dalrymple has resigned his seat on the Board of Directors of this Bank.

WINTER visitor in Florida: "I should love to go sailing, but it looks very dangerous. Do not people often get drowned in this bay?"
—Waterman: "No, indeed, mum—the sharks never lets anybody drown!"

ALTHOUGH the Pope is now in his eighty-first year his voice is still strong and clear, and there is no sign of decay in his intellectual faculties. Even his memory, which is usually the first of the faculties to decline, is accurate and tenacious.

THE Chief Justice of England, in summing-up the *baccarat* case, repeated the words that venerable assiduity that there is but one law alike for the peasant and the prince. He omitted to mention, however, that there are precisely four thousand and one different ways of administering that law.

BESSIE: "That Mamie Jones is always showing off her French. I asked her where she was going next summer, and she said, 'We will go to Paris.' What does that mean, Aunt Li?"
Aunt Li: "Surely you know, Bessie. 'No, I don't. But I want to go to tell Mamie so. So I said, 'May be we'll go there, too!'"

SIR WILLIAM FRASER, in his new book, "Disraeli and his Day," declares that of all men he has seen in public life "the man most full of spleenetic bitterness and vanity was John Bright." He adds that "Bright was believed by some to be honest because he was fat and rude," but that in reality he was "utterly insincere."

COMMENTING upon the gun accident on board H.M.S. *Cordelia* a naval correspondent informs the *Singapore Free Press* that a case occurred not very long ago on board the *Hyacinth*. It was found on examination to have produced a fracture of the steel lining tube, and the damaged gun was replaced at Hongkong by a new one.

A PECULIAR fact has been revealed in the results of the recent annual examination for appointment to vacancies in the *Seaham College* for training naval engineers. Fifty candidates out of 100 failed in spelling, which would indicate that in the cramming on other subjects of examination spelling was not considered of importance.

THE *Straits Times* states that the Municipality of Singapore has \$510,000 worth of stocks and suggests that this might be used with advantage in a deal in Rubber, Cables, insurance shares, and other sound local stocks. The profits, our contemporary thinks, could be used to build the new Municipal Office, to establish a Municipal pension fund, and for other such purposes.

In the Police Court to-day a Chinaman was charged with receiving a large quantity of cartridges, well knowing them to have been stolen from the military authorities. A Chinese man take the cartridges case to defendant's house, and that he heard them bargaining about the price. The case was adjourned until Monday.

"WHAT a boy of your age doesn't know the parts of speech!" said the school teacher.
"No'm," replied the boy. "Haven't you ever heard of a noun?"
"Oh, yes!" said the teacher.
"Well, what comes next?"
"Don't know," said the boy.
"A pronoun," replied the school teacher.
"Now please remember that. Then next the verb. Now what follows that?"
"A proverb," was the quick response.

"You love my daughter?" said the old man.
"Love her!" he exclaimed passionately. "Why, sir, I would die for her! For one soft glance from those sweet eyes I would hurl myself from yonder cliff and perish, a bleeding, bruised mass upon the rocks two hundred feet below."
The old man shook his head. "I'm something of a liar myself," he said, "and one is enough for a small family like mine." Application dismissed.

A FEW weeks since an extraordinary incident occurred at the Links on Fairfield Common, in connection with the Buxton and High Peak Golf Club. The treasurer of the Club was out playing, and had made an engagement to observe a cow, which was grazing on the common, deliberately walk up to his ball and swallow it. The rules of the game provide for "a lost ball," but the question was, could this ball be said to be lost when the player knew where it was? An entry was made in the club books of this unwelcome incident. How many balls did Buxton's dog swallow we wonder?

It is estimated that the costs in the *Baccarat* case, which in due course of law will fall on the plaintiff, amount to not less than £5,000.

THE most precious wine in the world is that contained in a case named the "Rose." In the Bremen Town Hall cellar it is *Rudolph* Rhine wine, from the year 1653, and the cask is replenished by degrees, whenever wine is drawn with carefully washed and dried gravel. It is never sold, but destined exclusively for the sick of Bremen, who receive a very small quantity on production of a doctor's certificate. At present the supposed value of this unique wine has so increased that a bottle containing eight glasses would cost 18,000,000 marks, a glassful 2,000,000 and a drop 2346 marks.

At the Magistrate's to-day the charge of assault brought by two excise officers against Tsang Yu Shang, Government contractor, and two of his boatmen, and the counter charge of assault against the officers, was brought up again. Two of the men in the excise officers' boat swore that they saw no chasing of Tsang Yu Shang nor any assault upon him. Mr. Wise in giving his decision said that the evidence, though very contradictory, pointed to a definite attack upon Tsang Yu by the officers; that being so, there was no occasion to pronounce upon the ability or inability of excise officers to arrest persons, though the Ordinance evidently intended that they should have such power. The two excise officers were fined \$10 each, and the others discharged.

If you have not bullion yourself it's a comfort to know that others have. There are 200,000 individuals in the U.S. worth more than £200,000, while a good half-dozen can boast of being the owners of £200,000. The present fortune of the Vanderbilts totals to the respectable sum of £50,000,000. Rockefeller, President of the Standard Oil Company, has an annual income of £3,000,000, or £3000 per day. By compounding this income at six per cent semi-annually, it will be seen that at the end of 25 years his fortune would amount to £160,000,000. Astor's income, which is even larger, would, at the end of 25 years, amount to £175,000,000. Jay Gould has £1,000,000 a year, so that in 25 years he would be worth only £15,000,000. There are 36 individuals worth over £1,000,000, while there are 87 more worth over £1,000,000. All of these fortunes are, however, not held by men. Many women belong high in the list. Mrs. Little Green heads the list with £6,000,000, there being 15 others who own over £1,000,000.

It is well known that a visitor when about to enter a Japanese house must, in order to avoid the ill omen which he would bring, the follower of Mahomet does the same upon entering his sacred places. It seems also that the visitor to the Old Schloss (palace) at Berlin is required to make a similar. "As we entered the palace," says a lady writer in *Wide Awake*, "we were detained in one of the corridors, and all were obliged to put on soft, thick, grey felt slippers, in which we noiselessly passed over the polished floor leaving no mark upon the shining surface. These slippers consisted merely of a sole and a sole, with no heel. We were each obliged to step up in turn before the gund, who dropped them before us, and then shake off our shoes. No attention is paid to the fit of course. Each must take them as they come. Mine, continues the writer, were tremendous. I believe they would have been too large for the biggest man I ever saw; so you may imagine that I had to slide along cautiously lest I should lose them. The occasional glimpses of ourselves that we had in the mirrors were very ridiculous—standing in these great canal-boats!"

At the Legislative Council meeting this afternoon the report of the Colonial Surgeon (Dr. P. B. C. Ayres) for 1890 was laid on the table. We make the following extracts from it.—There is a large increase in the admissions to hospital among the troops this year, with a slight decrease in the average strength. The deaths show a decrease of one. In spite of an unusually healthy year among the general population, Europeans and Chinese, the sickness amongst the troops is much in excess of the previous nine years, and the number of deaths has only been exceeded three times (in 1885-8-9). The admissions to the Government Civil Hospital show a very considerable increase this year, and this is nearly entirely due to the great increase in private paying patients, and the demand is greatly in excess of the capacity of this portion of the establishment. To supply the want of a paying patients have had to be in the first class of paying patients have had to be content with second class accommodation, and many have had to be turned away. The thoroughly efficient trained nursing staff has greatly increased this demand. Many people, who under the former system of half-trained Europeans and Chinese nurses would never have thought of applying for accommodation, are now anxious to be received. [The total number of patients admitted was 1957.]

A LIGHT and cheerful American life is just now going round the press concerning a gentleman who cleared off all his mortal debt, jewelry and liquors of a certain Mexican town by means of hypnosis. He wandered through the streets, and fixed his evil eye on every citizen who seemed to have assets, and about an hour afterwards the inhabitants began to call in and give him their watches, clothes, furniture, and bric-a-brac generally. Unfortunately, ten excited gentlemen visited him with a rope and asked an explanation, and instead of freeing them up with his baleful optic and taking all their attire off them, he abandoned his plunder and fled from the scene. The average hypnotist he always comes to the same impotent ending, "is this?" If hypnosis were the power it is, I asked to be the professor of the art would go round and petty banks with his mysticisms, and get forty separate overdrafts; or he would stand hotels with his unholy device, and get free board and lodging, and gratis liquor; or floor wealthy capitalists, and make 'em hand over the accumulated loot. But in real life, instead of this he hires some seedy person to eat candles and rush after imaginary rats on the stage, while he collars the scanty take-money; and this feebleness of purpose gives him away. Once, however, remarks our cheery friend the *Bulletin*, there came to Sydney a hypnotist who aimed at higher things than these, and he broke down miserably. He got a well-known George-street hatter to go under the "influence" at a public exhibition, and put him through the customary performance. Next day a wealthy patron wanted a private exhibition of the magician's powers, and he took him along to the hatter's shop, and standing outside, commanded the "subject" to rush out. Having come under the will of the operator he ought to have been seized on the instant with a sudden prompting of some sort, and to have dashed forth, dragged by invisible hands; but he didn't do a thing. The hypnotist sawed the air and made passes, but no one came. He kept it up for about half an hour, and it began to rain, and still there were no results. Finally they got so wet that they couldn't stand it any longer, so they went into the shop and inquired for the patient, and then it transpired that he had left for Melbourne that morning. The story breaks off short just there, for no one knows whether the hatter would have rushed got or not, supposing he had been present. Most likely he wouldn't.

A SHORT time ago a cable message reported that a French scientist in Algeria had been smothered by clouds of locusts, after vainly endeavoring to defend himself by means of fire. It now seems that the foundation for the story was a humorous paragraph in an Algerian paper, which was taken seriously by a credulous correspondent and telegraphed to Paris. The scientist is alive and well.

A CORRESPONDENT forwards an interesting account of a catch-weight combat which occurred at the Victoria Recreation Club on Wednesday night, between Messrs. J. and C. and C. for the championship of a well-known establishment in Queen's Road. We regret that, as the investigation was unable to detail the various rounds, and describe how effectively the heavy-weight knelt on his opponent after dashing him to the ground, and so on. In the meantime perhaps the controlling powers at the V. R. C. will do something.

PROFESSOR Lawrie, of Hyderabad, declares that deaths from chloroform are really due to the improper method of administration. He contends that Syme's method, which Lister subsequently sanctioned by adopting it, is almost absolutely safe. Under this system the respiration only is not tested, while in the ordinary method the pulse as well as the respiration is watched. Lawrie concludes "that the application of chloroform in ordinary cases is almost criminal unless Syme's method is followed." He claims that chloroform has been given in this way by him and his students many thousands of times without a single fatality, and refers in support of his position to the Commission appointed by an Indian Prince, which, carrying out experiments on animals, demonstrated that chloroform kills dogs by paralyzing the respiration, never by paralyzing the heart. Needless to say the result, concluding as it did in English verse, was not accepted accordingly appointed, to which the *Lancet* sent out a member. The *Lancet* man held the conventional view as to the action of chloroform upon the heart; but the investigation occasioned a reversal of his opinion.

THE following are the resolutions that the Honorable Phineas Ryrie will move at the public meeting which is to be held at the City Hall, at 4.30 p.m., on Thursday the 23rd inst., in connection with the appointment of a Chinese Consul at Hongkong:—

RESOLUTIONS.

1. That this meeting views with the greatest astonishment and regret the action of the foreign office in sanctioning, even experimentally, the appointment of a Chinese Consul in Hongkong, without having in any way consulted the Hong Kong mercantile community, or taken their opinion in a matter so gravely affecting their interests.

2. That this community rallies and endorses the opinions expressed in 1870 and in later years by the then Governors and Administrators of Hongkong and by the merchants of those days that the presence in Hongkong of a resident Chinese Consul is most objectionable and dangerous, and this community protests vigorously against any such appointment being made or allowed.

3. That the presence of a Chinese Consul in Hongkong will have a bad effect on the resident Chinese population, weakening their sense of power and authority of the English Government, setting up in their midst a rival authority to which they will be encouraged to appeal on all possible occasions, tending to create a very dangerous "imperium in imperio."

4. That in face of the recent recrudescence of strong anti-foreign feeling amongst the Chinese throughout the Empire it is most unfortunate that a centre should be set up round which any feeling of that sort existing among the heterogeneous mass of Chinese collected in this colony must necessarily gather.

5. That this meeting pledges itself to use all possible means to oppose the permanent appointment of a Chinese Consul in Hongkong, and requests the Chamber of Commerce to watch closely over the interests of the community during the next 12 months.

THUS a contemporary on Von Moltke, who it fears will continue to be a standing nuisance in the matter of obituary drive:—It will probably be twenty years before the world realizes that he was not a great man after all, but merely a man who came within an ace of greatness and missed it. As a general, Moltke only once made an appeal of first-class ability, on certain terms, and on that occasion he was wicked. He made a considerable name in '64, when he turned dog on the country which educated him—Denmark—but the odds against the gallant Danes were twenty to one, and anything short of an idiot or a corpse could have led the German armies to victory under such conditions almost as well as did Von Wrangel and Moltke. He rose to fame when he defeated the Austrians in '66, and stalked the needle-gun against the ancient muzzle-loader—a weapon which was as useless in such conditions as the bow-and-arrow or the crossbow. Also fortune was with him in other respects, for he had two armies against one, and Red Prince and the recently-deceased Frederick—both reasonably good generals—against Bismarck, who was as obsolete at his own gun. The poor, fossilized, blue-moulded Austrian had the courage of a whole shipload of lions, but otherwise he was merely another sample of the great "Shook of Cambridge" fraternity, and there was a strange pathos about the grand old muddled hero, when he had lost all save his indomitable pluck, charging like a common soldier into the thickest of the carnage in the hope that a Prussian bullet would send him to his long home. Moltke's third great show was against the French in 1870, and there also his luck stood by him, for the French only mustered some 250,000 men to oppose over twice that number, and they gave the command to the appalled Bismarck. Moltke gained a lot of credit by doubling up that ancient shamed, but Baraine had been doubled up long before that time, in Mexico, by a certain Indian lawyer named Juarez, and there were lots of generals scattered over Europe who could have wiped out the old, fat Marshal, with his harem, and his caravan of liquor, and his other appurtenances. A few months later Moltke nearly met a man of his own size in the shape of Chanzy, but missed him. That brilliant Frenchman, with his army of ploughboys, clerics and farmers, broke up Moltke's plans so effectively that it had actually been resolved that the siege of Paris must be abandoned; but just at the fatal moment Bazaine surrendered Metz, and 200,000 Germans who had been besieging that city rolled down like a torrent on the new hero and headed him off by sheer weight of numbers. Once in his early life, however, the deceased Marshal met a man of genius on equal terms, and the man of genius named him. Moltke formed the new Turkish army in the reign of Sultan Mahmood, and went into Syria as virtual commander of that splendid force to war on the despised Egyptian and reconquer Egypt. But though one Turk was better than two Egyptians, Mehmet Ali and his adopted son Ibrahim made up the difference. Moltke confided himself after that to fighting fifth-rate men, and built his reputation by reviving the military organization of Frederick the Great, with modifications, and passing it off as his own. And at the end of 1890, when the organization from Leopold of Dessau, and passed it off as his own, it was a square deal all round.

DURING the month of May every infant vaccinated by the medical authorities of the town of Obermeil, near Weisbaden, died. Eleven deaths have thus far been reported, and an investigation has been ordered into the character of the lymph, which is believed to have been poisoned.

A PRELIMINARY report of the census of Ireland for 1890 has been issued. According to the general summary it appears that 4,700,162 persons (2,317,076 males and 2,383,086 females) were returned in the enumerators' summaries as constituting the population of Ireland on the night of Sunday, the 31st of last April, thus showing a decrease since 1881 of 458,674 persons. There was during the decade a decrease of 84,271 persons in the province of Leinster, 161,121 in Munster, 125,103 in Ulster, and 98,084 in Connaught. Of the total population 3,549,745 returned themselves as Roman Catholics, 600,810 as returned under the head of Protestant Episcopalians, 446,687 were returned as Presbyterians, and 55,235 as Methodists.

SUPREME COURT.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.
(Before Mr. E. F. Acland, Acting Chief Justice.)

INARTISTIC LYING.

Mr. Morrison, of the water and drainage department, was sued for damages caused to Ng Sik Kiu, a contractor. The same parties appeared in the police court a few days ago, when the defendant was fined fifty cents for assault.

Plaintiff and two other Chinamen said that defendant struck the contractor with his fist, knocked him down, and then threw a brick at him, striking him first on the elbow and then, by a skillful screw canon, rebounding on his wrist and breaking a jade stone bangle worth \$70.

The defendant and a Sikh watchman said that the "assault" was nothing more than a push with the open hand; plaintiff tripping back fell over a stone step, and broke the bangle in his fall.

This admission would have given the plaintiff a verdict, but in the course of the story about the brick it was so manifest that the plaintiff and his witnesses were lying outrageously that his Lordship said he could not believe a word of their story, and gave judgment for defendant.

MEETING OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held this afternoon. There were present—H. E. Major-General Digby Barker, Officer Administering the Government, Mr. W. M. Goodman (Acting Colonial Secretary); Mr. A. J. Leach (Acting Attorney-General); Mr. S. Brown (Surveyor-General); Mr. J. H. Stewart-Lockhart (Registrar-General); Mr. N. G. Mitchell-Innes (Colonial Treasurer); Messrs. J. J. Keswick, T. H. Whitehead, P. Ryrie, and Ho Kai.

THE CENTRAL MARKET.
His Excellency—Before we begin, as I see the members of the Public Works Committee are present, I should like to say that I shall be very glad if they can conveniently meet at a very early date to finally consider the question of the Central Market. The fenders which they called for have been received, and therefore all is ready for them to proceed. It is desirable that this matter should not drag on, as I understand that the colony will be put to considerable loss if further delay occurs.

The Committee meeting was fixed for Tuesday next.

MINUTES.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

VOTE.

A vote of \$48, for the salaries of two coolies, was referred to the Finance Committee.

REPORTS.

The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the reports of the superintendent of the Botanical and Afforestation Department, and of the Colonial Surgeon, for 1890.

PEAK WATER SUPPLY.

The Colonial Secretary moved the adoption of the Finance Committee's report in favour of a vote of \$1,000 for the extension of the Peak water supply to 'Magazine Gap. This was passed.

INCREASE OF SALARIES.

The Colonial Secretary moved the adoption of the Finance Committee's report in favour of a vote of \$5,500 to meet the increase of official salaries in excess of the estimates.

Mr. Whitehead: Your Excellency, I rise to oppose this vote, as I am still of opinion that the financial position of the Colony does not justify this additional expense. I opposed the original vote some time ago, and on principle I must oppose this also.

The Colonial Secretary asked if the hon. member had opposed the vote in the Finance Committee.

Mr. Whitehead:

History

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The best Brands of WINES, LIQUORS, CIGARS, &c., always on Stock. MEALS can be served at any hour. Prompt attendance.
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Hongkong, 4th November, 1890. (104)

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Reduction of price to be made on an order for more than a dozen.
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No. 8, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,
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